

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
CHARACTER
OF
MANILIUS.

[Price One Shilling and Six-pence.]

Y. A. S. E.
C. R. A. C. T. E. R.
M. A. N. I. D. U. S.

(The Great and the Small)

AN
E S S A Y
ON THE
C H A R A C T E R
O F
M A N I L I U S,
IN AN
E P I S T L E
T O
J U V E N I S.

IN WHICH IS ATTEMPTED
A DESCRIPTION of the DISTRESSED,
the MISER and the LIBERAL,
WITH
OTHER EPISTLES ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS,
in BLANK VERSE.

By WILLIAM WYLD.

Diligenter legendum est, ac pæne ad scribendi Sollicitudinem.
QUINTIL.

L O N D O N:
Printed for the AUTHOR,
And sold by Messrs. RICHARDSON and URQUHART, under
the ROYAL EXCHANGE.
M.DCC.LXVII,

Y

A

MA

2

D

R

T

R

O

2

5

1

1

1

E

A

E

E

E

2

2

1

2

2

2

46.

7

4

902



A R C U M B N

O. T.

THE A R G U M E N T.

AN Exhortation to JUVENIS. A Supplication to Charity for its efficacious influence. EVANDER leaves his Master, begins business for himself; and soon after marries. Is unexpectedly called upon by his Creditors, but unable to remit the sums, applies to MANILIUS for relief; who lends him sufficient to discharge his debts; is called upon again by other Creditors, again has recourse to MANILIUS; who supplies him with more than he is able to repay at the time appointed. A MISER being informed of EVANDER's necessitous circumstances, offers to furnish him with a considerable sum for an unlimited time, which he accepts. The MISER hearing of the decrease of EVANDER's stock in trade, demands payment the next morning, contrary to EVANDER's expectation; and threatens him with ruin if he is disappointed. EVANDER is again obliged to implore MANILIUS for his aid, who assists him, fixes no time, but generously leaves the payment of it to his leisure; and cautions him, if possible always to preserve his credit. EVANDER then hastened to the MISER, who eagerly received the loan,

T O



TO
J U V E N I L S.
AN
E S S A Y
ON THE
C H A R A C T E R
OF
M A N I L I U S.
BOOK THE FIRST.

As the parch'd glebe the pregnant rain
imbibes,
Which in soft show'rs the humid clouds
distill,

Earth's crufted furface with its lucid drops
To foften; and, by their productive pow'r,
To facilitate the birth of fpiral grafs,

Of infant flow'rs, whose variegated dye,
With brilliant lustre sweetly they embellish.

So, JUVENIS, so may your ductile mind
Receive the fair impression ; and retain
Th' illustrious virtues of MANILIUS breast :
Oh ! may they ever flourish in your soul,
And decorate each action of your life.
But chiefly what this Essay would delineate,
The grace of comprehensive Charity,
Which in its bosom many more include ;
That flux of bounty from th' exhaustless source,
That vast extensive and diffusive good
Which wins, endears, and captivates the man :
Heav'n's nearest, best resemblance here below ;
Whose influential pow'r exhalts the soul
To its first essence, love ineffable,
Borne hence on soft compassion's soaring wing.

Attractive, sweet, communicative grace,
Which imperceptibly, thy vot'ries binds
In love's delightful chain with God and man ;
As by a secret ligature conjoin'd
And interwoven with affection's thread ;

Like

CHARACTER of MANILIUS. 5

Like that which bless'd celestial spirits move
 With ardent wishes, with inflam'd desires,
 T' enlarge if possible, each other's bliss,
 To the great glory of th' eternal mind,
 Whose acts beneficent, they then transcribe :
 Thou lively, lovely lineament of heav'n,
 The signature of man's affinity
 To the supreme, communicative good ;
 Who with complacency his likeness views.
 From thee may one commiserating ray,
 Invigorate, and warm a suppliant breast,
 Like that which lately in MANILIUS shone.

EVANDER from his servitude releas'd ;
 Pursuant to th' advice of boasted friends ;
 With a small capital advanc'd, embark'd,
 And launched out into the sea of trade :
 Then quickly took a partner to his bed.
 The clam'rous duns soon interrupt their peace,
 Demand full payment on a destin'd day.
 Unable of himself to reimburse,
 And satisfy th' ungen'rous creditors,
 In thought his whole acquaintance he survey'd ;
 Where in the throng MANILIUS straight occur'd,

Elate

Elate with hope, with expectation flush'd,
To meet with a deliverer in him;
His disposition courteous, and humane,
Seem'd to preface benevolence of mind;
Till rising fears suppress'd the groundless thought,
Bound by no promise, no pre-engagement,
No sacred ties of friendship to assist.
What should induce him to support the weak,
The tott'ring man, and rescue him from ruin,
By friends deserted, and with want oppress'd?
He hesitates—reflects—then thinks again,
His case admits not of a long delay;
Some speedy succour he must seek to find.
Resolves at last, and to MANILIUS hastes;
To whom with freedom he unfolds the whole.
Pity, that gen'rous inmate of his breast,
Without reluctance, or the least demur,
Unty'd the bag, and lent what he desir'd.
Himself shall nominate and fix the day.
The time's agreed—arives—the loan's repaid
With the sincerest thanks, a joyous heart,
And grateful tongue, with language could express.

How

CHARACTER of MANILIUS. 37

How short a respite scanty sums afford
 From future want, EVANDER can attest.
 Time, pregnant time, big with th' event of things;
 The secondary source of good or ill;
 The spring of human causes, and effects;
 Midwife, which gives our weak conceptions birth,
 And brings to light the secrets of the soul,
 Displays the various workings of the breast.
 The test of friendship, virtue's greatest proof,
 Ere long the man with a new storm molests,
 With fresh threats, invades his tranquil hours,
 And clouds the welcome dawn of peace within.
 To whom for succour shall he make address?
 For instant shelter whom solicit now,
 To save him from afflictions' gath'ring cloud?
 Embolden'd by the former timely aid,
 Th' experienced kindness of MANILIUS hand,
 To him for safety and protection fled.
 And was with the same promptitude reliev'd.
 The time again for payment was assign'd;
 But not with punctuality observ'd.
 The day arriv'd but no remittance made
 His word was broken, and whole weeks elaps'd
 Ere his return; then paid a scantling sum,

A small

A small trifling moiety to his friend ;
For which defect the various reasons giv'n,
Were readily admitted, and approv'd.
Himself in trade, the disappointments knew,
Which, the best purposes of men, subvert,
Built on the basis of another's will.
No discomposure in his mien appear'd,
The mark of an offended angry mind.
No—his lenient disposition pleaded
A pardon with himself for such offence ;
Not straiten'd were his bowels but enlarg'd ;
That channel where the stream of pity flow'd,
Was now made more capacious by its course ;
Whose gentle current swell'd into a surge,
Which knew no limits, but thro' want of pow'r.
Its comprehensive wish to all extends
Who are the sons of penury, and want ;
And with a copious hand would all relieve,
But chiefly those, by assiduity,
Sobriety, and temp'rance distinguish'd :
For by each gen'rous and benignant act,
The soul's exalted to a nobler pitch
Of liberality, which more and more
Gains on the will, and by a secret force

Excites

Excites the man his blessings to dispense,
On objects worthy his regard, and care.
Such then EVANDER was, his family
Increasing and increas'd, protection claim'd
From some munificent, and bounteous hand
Willing his treasure as a loan to risque
With one who then no capital could boast.

Ere late disquietudes were well remov'd,
And anxious thoughts subsided in his breast;
A MAMMONIST, a penurious vassal,
Link'd in affection to the golden wedge,
Who for a time unlimited, had lent
The splendid earth, on an emergent cause;
Professing friendship, and a great regard.
But when he thought his stock in the decline
Quick as an *Eagle* darts upon the prey,
Accosts him with impatience, and demands
Without delay full payment to be made.
Struck with th' unexpected, hasty summons,
EVANDER speechless for some moments stood,
Then falt'ring begg'd for respite, but in vain,
With threats tyrannic, and an awful frown,
He blasts all hope of patience on default;

Checks the soft pleadings of the gath'ring tears,
Ready to deluge, and o'erflow their bounds,

Yet furious as he was, within his breast
Commiserating thoughts began to move
Some feeble efforts of humanity :
Whose infant languors wanted but a smile,
A kind reception, from th' internal pow'rs
The mind to win, and to compliance form
Reluctant passions, and rebate their rage.
Whose language more emphatically moves
The mind, not quite averse to nature's calls,
Is more persuasive, far more eloquent,
Than the most pow'rful rhetoric of words,
Deliver'd with the most affecting voice.
'Twas all too little for the deaf'ning ear,
For then the wretched, the degen'rate man,
Ev'n then committed an unnat'ral act ;
An act, which curb'd with unrelenting rage
The weak conceptions of the yielding breast :
That act, which with barbarity repuls'd
The fellow-feelings of another's woe ;
The secret pleadings of his inmost soul,
And with relentless violence, suppress'd

The

The silent struggles of a friendly eye
 To spare the needy, and support the weak,
 By a tenacious avaricious thought,
 The fear of having his vast sum decreas'd.—
 His hard'ning heart inexorable grown,
 Regardless of the suff'rings of the just ;
 Fierce as the flash that blasts the branching tree,
 He frown'd despair into the pensive mind ;
 Enlarg'd the burthen of affliction's load ;
 And made the man more wretched than before :
 Such is the friendship grasping misers shew.

Depress'd with anxious and corrosive care,
 Not knowing where t' advance the full demand,
 And silence the loud clamours of his dun,
 Ere next day's sun gain'd its meridian height,
 The longest time allotted to discharge
 The splendid loan ; the treasure to remit—
 Beyond which period if he should defer,
 To bear the beauteous object to his sight,
 (The burnish'd clay that sov'reign of his soul,
 His ultimate delight, his greatest good,
 The sole foundation of each deep laid scheme,
 The source, the center of his solid joys :

From whence they flow, and unto which they tend ;
 Whose magnetic pow'r each thought commands ;
 Whose charms ideal—whose illustrious blaze,
 Warms ev'ry wish, and animates his breast ;
 Becomes the hinge on which his actions turn,
 With which he meant his canvass bag to swell,
 And stretch with yellow dust the coarse spun threads,
 'Till by accumulated sums one more
 Would soon be added to the num'rous hoard.)

Then was the rigour of the law decreed
 By the stern churl, to be the suppliant's doom.
 In spite of all the struggles of remorse,
 The secret pleadings of humanity,
 Whilst thus in favour of his wealth he reason'd.
 " That fond forbearance, those ties of friendship,
 " The silent whispers for another's good ;
 " These innate motions to suspend the stroke,
 " The fatal stroke, which will effect his ruin
 " Should he th' allotted time let slip, and not
 " With punctuality the hour attend ;
 " Whence have they their rise ?—what's their tendency ?
 " What mean they if obeyed ?—what's the result ?
 " Are they not bars to my pursuit of wealth ?

Checks

CHARACTER OF MANILIUS. 13

- “ Checks to my budding hope of present gain,
“ Which damp the fervors of my zeal for gold ?
“ Oh animating ! oh endearing word !
“ Gold how attractive, grateful is the sound,
“ How sweetly on the tympanum it strikes,
“ How pow’rful is th’ impression there it makes,
“ By which into my breast it penetrates,
“ Mingles, with my spirit, charms my fancy,
“ And by its efficacious influence
“ Affects, and op’rates on my noblest pow’rs ;
“ It self diffusing over all my frame !
“ Thus it becomes as ’twere another self
“ Part of my soul, and centers in my heart.
“ Hence then ye sentiments of tenderness,
“ Ye bubblings of commiseration hence ;
“ Far from my bosom in an instant fly,
“ Haste, wing your passage to some gen’rous mind ;
“ The mind accustom’d to benevolence ;
“ With diffusive, open hand, to lavish
“ The dear delightful treasure from the bag ;
“ That glitt’ring gold his predecessors gain’d :
“ There seek a residence, be there indulg’d ;
“ For with unshaken resolution arm’d,
“ Deaf to your strongest advocates to spare ;

“ To

“ To let such pilf’ring ebullitions live
“ That would bereave me of my opulence,
“ And thwart my projects to augment my store,
“ I’ll trace you to your most retir’d recess,
“ The very embryo, the rise of thought,
“ And tear you thence, or stifle and suppress
“ Your earliest struggles in conception’s womb.”

Such are the miser’s reas’nings and resolves,
With which he thwarts the purposes of heaven ;
Disclaims allegiance to th’ omnipotent,
Refuses to resemble the supreme,
And blots his image in the human breast.

EVANDER, conscious of his late default,
Abash’d with the reflection of th’ arrear,
The disappointment of his worthy friend,
Curb’d the suggestion of a new address ;
Yet knew not in the present exigence
Another near, to mitigate his woes ;
To stop the torrent of avidity ;
Avert the fatal stroke, th’ impending blow,
And shield him from th’ inclement miser’s grasp.
Time would not then admit of long delay

To

To try the constancy of friends remote;
 Short was the date, and urgent the demand.
 Disorder'd as he was, and half confus'd,
 He bent his steps to seek MANILIUS' aid,
 Who not without emotion heard the tale,
 Th' inexorable wretch, displeasure mov'd,
 Who had extinguish'd kind affection's fire
 By the suppression of each tender thought;
 Each soft endearing sentiment within,
 Himself of that characteristic robb'd,
 That reverential, that distinguish'd badge,
 Which should denominate him a human.
 Think how MANILIUS then affected was;
 His bowels yearn'd with pity for EVANDER,
 Whose suff'rings were how greatly then enhanc'd;
 When in his pensive throbbing breast he view'd
 The direful, the calamitous event,
 Which threaten'd with inextricable griefs,
 T' involve a virtuous, and a tender wife
 With their small helpless offspring in distress.—
 The sum enquired—which when EVANDER nam'd,
 Swift as a feather'd *Arrow* to the mark
 Without intreaty hasted to the gold;
 Then with an open, and a lib'ral hand

He

He lent him to the full of what he ow'd ;
Rejoic'd he was enabled to do good,
To deliver one in thought devoted,
To become a sacrifice to mammon,
To still the raging of affliction's waves,
To bid the fluctuating passions cease,
And in the troubled breast command a calm.
No time for payment of the sum was fix'd,
On the most gen'rous, favourable terms,
Th' industrious indigent was then dismiss'd
With this proposal by MANILIUS made ;
That for the future all returns to him
Be paid in moieties, at such seasons
As with his credit best should correspond.

Credit, the basis, and support of trade,
That efficacious spring, which moves
As in some vast machine inferior springs,
And to remotest realms its pow'r expands.
Credit, the life of commerce, its substance,
Its most essential property, its soul.
But of that influential aid depriv'd ;
Of that effective operative good,
By some malevolent and stand'rous foe ;—

As

As by a baleful and destructive blight,
The promis'd plenty of the year decays;
The tender fruits and whiten'd blossoms die;
So stagnates all commercial intercourse,
The full blown hope of future gain's destroy'd.

Be cautious then, that treasure to preserve,
Which will hereafter be your firm support;
Will be a prop, when other succours fail,
And in distress a ready friend procure.
Life excepted, credit is the greatest,
Most valuable blessing man enjoys
On this vast theatre, this active scene,
As from th' effects 'twere easy to deduce;
But since 'tis obvious to each thinking mind,
The self-attested truth in silence wave,
With this repeated admonition, that
You keep it as the apple of your eye.

EVANDER furnish'd with the shining dust,
Exulting, hasted to repay the loan
Ere sleep the wakeful MISER's lids had clos'd.
As soon as he beheld the glitt'ring gold,
A chearful smile his wrinkled forehead smooth'd,

D

And

And pleasure round his meagre visage play'd ;
Dwelt in his eyes, and lodg'd upon his lips ;
From whence a stream of soft expressions flow'd,
Kind as the voice of friendship's self could speak.
To him, the sum his ready fingers drew,
'Till all was told—the calculation made—
'Twas right—then seiz'd, with eager grasp, the dear,
The burnish'd, flaming, captivating clay,
Which he with care committed to the bag.
And that secur'd, by a strong artful lock,
Such as the pilf'ring robber could not pick,
And stronger than a single arm could break—
Straight a receipt in-full was sign'd—and giv'n—
From threaten'd ills EVANDER to protect ;
Who, with a courteous air, th' acquittance took,
Was then with complaisance and pleasing smiles,
With external marks of friendship honour'd,
To the door at parting was conducted,
And with great affability dismiss'd,

As when a captive from confinement freed,
By some benevolent and gen'rous mind,
(Bent to relieve and succour the distress'd,
To rescue one whom av'rice had decreed

To

To fall a victim to its rav'nous thought ;
 To save by timely intervenient aid
 The helpless destin'd by the rig'rous law,
 To suffer all the woes it would inflict,)
 His benefactor's praise with joy extols,
 And heav'n invokes for blessings on his head.

So streams of pleasure in that bosom flow'd,
 Where late disquietudes, and anxious cares,
 Grievs of uncommon magnitude had dwelt ;
 And with their vast depressive pond'rous weight,
 The spirit sunk into a gulph of woe.
 But by reflecting on the danger past,
 On his deliv'rance, and indemnity
 From an impatient prowling miser's pow'r ;
 A flood of joy in his calm breast arose,
 Mix'd with a stream of gratitude and praise
 To heav'n, and his much lov'd friend MANILIUS,
 Whose disposition to beneficence,
 Whose disinterested views in active life
 Were so conspicuous, and apparent,
 On common virtues such a radiance cast,
 And with a lustre so resplendent shone,

As justly rank'd him in the highest class,
The first degree of rationals below.

Admir'd, respected, and distinguish'd thus
He gain'd th' affection and applause of all.
But chiefly of EVANDER's joyous breast,
Who in reflexion wond'ring view'd the man,
And thought his animated vehicle
Was with a more exalted soul endow'd ;
A spirit of more excellence and worth,
Than any human he before had known.
Such were the secret whispers of his breast,
And such the language of his thankful heart,
For thus he reason'd in his raptur'd mind.

“ Self-evident's the truth, it must be so—
“ From that unmerited regard, those marks
“ Of its assimilation to its source,
“ That friendship, those repeated favours shewn
“ To one who nothing had, but indigence,
“ No other cause, such actions to produce.
“ He no retaliation could expect
“ From exigence, from poverty itself,
“ To bid the springs of soft emotion flow,

To —

- " To melt his bowels into tenderness ;
- " To plead for pity, and compassion move.
- " No—his complacency in doing good
- " Excited, in his mind, the tender thought,
- " Then cloath'd it with the voluntary act :
- " Compassion's self, did for compassion plead,
- " Brought into being sympathetic care ;
- " Cherish'd the kind concern, and gave it birth,
- " Touch'd with a sense of grief for others woes,
- " His gen'rous heart commiseration fill'd ;
- " 'Till with the yearnings of humanity,
- " It like a rushing torrent swell'd so high
- " Within the limits of a bounteous wish,
- " It could not be contain'd, but overflow'd,
- " And brake the bounds in acts benevolent."

Thus with uplifted soul, his praise was sung
In the still accents of th' exulting breast.

IN SUMMARY THE
A R G U M E N T
OF THE
S E C O N D B O O K.

THE Character of MANILIUS, who reflects on the Troubles he is liable to, whose sole dependance is upon others, and the treachery of EVANDER's professed friends. A descant upon Charity; the happiness resulting from it, which the MISER is unacquainted with. EVANDER is again reduced to a great strait, who, through his inability to repay MANILIUS any part of the former debt, is for some time, by that consciousness, discouraged from having recourse to him, yet is at last obliged to go; who, when he hears of his distress, readily supplies him, notwithstanding the arrears. EVANDER, transported with the generosity, voluntarily makes over all his effects to MANILIUS, who, importuned by him, accepts it, but without any intention of a rigorous execution of the Law. MANILIUS being informed of EVANDER's diligence and frugality, but incapacity to lessen the sum, after keeping it upwards of six years, returned the security, for which EVANDER, overcome with joy, was unable to return him sufficient thanks.

B O O K



BOOK the SECOND.

MANILIUS in affection disengag'd
 From delights corporeal, and deceptive,
 From temp'ral joys, with a loose attachment
 Pursu'd the perishable things of earth,
 Whose most exalted, most substantial bliss,
 Whose boasted pow'r to please the craving will,
 To fill the void in ev'ry human breast,
 Is but illusion, and a false pretence.
 For their endearing, captivating charms,
 Are greatly aided by th' ideal pow'rs,
 Brighten'd in warm imagination's beams,
 Which to their splendor add the greater glow,
 With a superior lustre make them shine,
 And each enjoyment with their rays embellish.

Thus are external objects, from within
 So decorated by the treach'rous heart,
 That with the specious shew of present good

The

Th' affections are misplac'd, the judgment errs,
The will, thro' the deceit, consents to act
With all the vehemence, and precipitance
Embodied minds can into error rush.
But when divested of the fallacy,
When mental faculties, due order keep,
When each performs the task at first enjoin'd,
Moves in its sphere, with regularity,
And seldom from the rule of duty strays,
Which when it does, with penitence sincere
Th' affected soul, for the past failure mourns :
With greater circumspection then resolves
With more vigilance to protect her pow'rs
Against th' attacks of all promissory,
Unsatisfying, and supposed good,
The passions with more diligence restrains,
Lest they should deviate from the path prescrib'd.

For things, perceptible to sense, appear'd
In their true light to him, without the veil
Of thought to hide their imperfections, and
Were in futurity's perspective view'd,
Were in the balance of right reason weigh'd.
That great tepidity, and disesteem,

Becoming

Becoming one, who, for conveniency,
 More than delight, these temporaries used,
 His sentiments of their intrinsic worth,
 And disregard to all the baits of sense,
 Declar'd his mind, on nobler objects fix'd,
 On unseen treasures, and on joys seraphic.
 Else why so negligent of these? for he,
 The lib'ral, munificent MANILIUS,
 Thus on EVANDER, and his family,
 With a spirit, truly great, reflected.

To what solicitude, and anxious care,
 To what afflictive griefs, is he expos'd,
 Whose capital in trade alone depends
 On others humours, and capricious wills?

On a short summons to repay the loan,
 And be depress'd with a vast weight of woe,
 Superior far, to what he would have known,
 But for such tott'ring, and unstable props,
 Such treach'rous men, whose voice blandiloquent
 Express'd a language foreign to the heart;
 The frequent efflux of a selfish mind.
 For by whatever motive urg'd to lend,

E

Whether

Whether large int'rest, or the love of praise,
Or other secret movement of the breast,
It matters not its origin to know :
Since with deceptive hypocritic smiles,
The delusive flatt'ring shew of friendship,
Such artful specious phrases were annex'd.
The credulous, but upright man was mock'd ;
Whence such ungen'rous conduct had its rise
He best can ascertain—this I assert,
From extensive charity, it sprung not,
From that divine, commiserating grace,
Tho' veil'd beneath its ever sacred name.

For charity afflicts not, but relieves ;
Hath no insidious views, distressing none,
But comforts the distress'd ; seeks not her own,
But waits th' auspicious time, 'till bounteous heav'n
Empow'rs the needy to repay the sum.
Or if unable to discharge the debt,
Should th' adverse scene have no propitious change,
But the bright treasure be for ever lost,
Without a fierce exertion of the law,
Kind charity restrains the rig'rous suit,
Forbids stern threats to issue from the tongue,

Nor

Nor with harsh clam'rous accents grates the ear:
 Not only stops the torrent of severity,
 In acts tho' legal, to declining age,
 To infants, to the weak sex, oppressive;
 But checks its earliest motions in the breast,
 And will not suffer the strict thought to live,
 Which, if encourag'd, cruelty ensues;
 Such cruelty, as with one fatal blow
 Disqualifies, and incapacitates,
 Th' industrious, thoughtful, and laborious man
 For his dependant family to provide;
 Seizes his whole effects, his credit blasts,
 Of all his furniture his house divests,
 And scarcely leaves th' unweaned tender babe,
 The smiling innocent, a bed whereon
 To lean its head, and take its calm repose;
 Lest the refulgent pile should be diminish'd,
 Emit a feebler blaze, dart weaker beams,
 Should less attractive, less endearing prove.—
 Can acts like these with charity consist,
 With that beneficent, diffusive good,
 Which of a little will a share impart,
 And with alacrity the poor relieve?
 Are they not repugnant to its nature?

Do they not thwart its noblest purposes ?
And clash discordant with its very name ?
The charitable man is ever prompt
To cancel, an insolvent debtor's bond ;
Will, what he might with justice claim, renounce,
T' assuage the throbbings of an anxious breast,
To bid solicitude, and fear subside,
And chase the gloomy phantom from his soul.
Nay more, should a fresh loan be requisite
His stock t' enlarge, more amply to provide
For his infant offspring, thronging round him
With watry eyes, petitioning for bread—
Long-suff'ring Charity which hopes the best,
Adds to the debt, and risques a further sum ;
Nor ever murmurs should the whole be lost.
For what's the loss to him, who has a surplus ?
'Tis trifling, 'tis unworthy his regard
Who's opulent, yet to the indigent,
'Tis as a fund, which ev'ry want supplies,
By frequent lucrative returns in trade,
Thro' which capacious channel, he receives
Enough t' assuage the sorrows of his spouse,
To load, with bread, uplifted little hands,
Which daily round his frugal board are spread.

This

This welcome, this exhilarating change,
 When in the mirror of reflexion view'd,
 Th' indulgent parent's breast with transport fills,
 Dejection dissipates, his fears dispels.
 His late solicitude, and low'ring frowns
 Are now no more, but vanquish'd as a dream:
 Now calm content appears, and sprightly joy;
 Each feature's crown'd with smiles, his forehead's smooth'd;
 A graceful sweetness round his visage beams,
 Whilst the full soul with gratitude and praise
 Exulting swells, and breaks a passage thro'
 The closed lips, those barriers of the tongue,
 Th' imprison'd voice no longer is restrain'd
 From lauds, for such an act benevolent;
 But will the generosity promulge;
 Will his endearing benefactor bless;
 Pour forth his warmest wishes for his good;
 Will supplicate kind heav'n, to dispence
 His most distinguish'd favours, noblest gifts
 On him, who is the secondary cause
 Of that wish'd competence he now enjoys;
 On that benign commiserating man,
 Who makes the tide of life more calmly run,
 Rebates the fury of the troubled surge,

And

And bids the turgid stream more smoothly flow;
 Extracts the venom from affliction's sting;
 Sweetens th' unpleasant potion, in the cup
 And, less distasteful, makes the bitter draught.

Extatic thought—if acts beneficent,
 Can in receivers, such effects produce;
 Can quell the throbbings of th' afflicted breast;
 Alleviate sorrow, and compose the mien;
 Can calm th' emotions of the troubled mind;
 Can ev'ry ruffle on the forehead smooth,
 And floods of bliss into the soul convey,
 Ready to sink, beneath a load of woe—
 What secret springs of pleasure must arise
 Within the bosom, of that lib'ral man;
 From whose enlarged soul, and open hand,
 Such blessings flow, to succour the distress'd?
 With what complacency must he behold
 In contemplation's optic joyous scene,
 The tender parent with a bounteous hand,
 A competence dispensing to each child
 The frequent calls of nature to appease;
 The languor of the spirits to revive;
 To glad the heart, whilst smiles, the visage, grace?

Thus

Thus nobly to employ the splendid dust;
 Thus to co-operate, with the good supreme,
 And after that great copy, to transcribe,
 Tho' faint the sketch, imperfect be the draught—
 How glorious is th' attempt, how worthy praise?
 The thought must be divine, that stimulates,
 That prompts to such an act, and bears the mark,
 Th' impression of the deity itself.
 He, who for the needy makes provision;
 With an affectionate, and tender care,
 Adopts them for his children, and becomes
 Another parent, to relieve the wants
 Of those, whose happiness he studiously
 Attempts; which gen'rous act, his own compleats
 By that assimilation to his God.
 This proves from whence the disposition sprung;
 Demonstrates its affinity to heav'n.
 And by a secret magnetism, attracts
 The soul, by imperceptible degrees;
 'Till 'tis conjoin'd to its original.
 'Tis our propinquity to him, must make
 Us blest, and happy, perfect all our joys.
 For whilst it moves, in concert with its source,
 The welfare of his creatures to promote;

'Tis

'Tis favour'd with a pledge of future bliss,
Participates angelic joys below;
Which in proportion ever will increase;
As to perfection, nearer it arrives,
Tho' burthen'd, with a cumb'rous load of clay.

Oh that th' idolatrous, that misers could
Taste those delights, which from beneficence,
From kind, diffusive, gen'rous actions flow!
Oh that they could commiserate the griefs;
Compassionate the woes, which others feel;
And with complacency, their wants relieve!
How would they disregard the shining dust,
Look on each neighbour, as another self;
And joy they were intrusted, with the means,
A fellow-creature's sufferings to allay?

EVANDER'S pressing wants again recurr'd,
Ere a remittance, to his friend, was made;
Or the least portion, of the debt, diminish'd.
To seek for succour from MANILIUS hand;
To have recourse to him for supply,
His thoughts reluctant, stifle the address;
And blast the flow'ry buds, of hope for aid;

From

From one, to whom th' arrears due surmounted,
 More than his whole effects could then discharge.
 Which deep reflexion on his indigence
 And inability, suspended straight,
 Each rising expectation for a time.
 Thus in his breast contending passions rose,
 Which sway'd alternate, in his anxious mind,
 'Till by necessity compell'd to fly,
 To some communicative, lib'ral friend,
 Who takes delight, the needy to relieve.
 This disposition in MANILIUS lodg'd.
 The well known man, this character had gain'd
 From disinterested, former favours;
 With friendly counsel, credit to preserve,
 As the sole basis, and support of trade.
 Embolden'd thus to make his pressures known
 By these incitements, these persuasives prompt.
 Was yet abash'd t' unfold his wretched case;
 T' excite compassion in that gen'rous mind;
 To bid the springs of pity flow afresh,
 And call commiseration into act.
 With such a discompos'd, and thoughtful mien,
 He bent his passage to his steady friend,
 And, without reservation, told the whole.

As pensive accents issu'd from his tongue
In artless phrase, with great simplicity
Free from dissimulation's soothing tone ;
Th' affecting narrative, a passage, found
Into MANILIUS' fellow-feeling breast.
There bubbling springs of tenderness arose,
Pleading the cause of virtue in distress ;
And, by their kind emotions, prompt the man
To a fresh proof of his humanity.
Tho' to restrain him from the gen'rous act,
All former favours to his mind occur'd,
Then selfish thoughts, his treasury forbid
Him to unlock, and with a niggard hand,
The sparkling, impress'd, metal to withhold
From one, whom want intitled to a share,
For his support, whilst in his voyage thro'
This busy scene, this probatory state.
Soon were th' inclement advocates suppress'd ;
Their infant efforts with abhorrence quell'd.
All that tenacity could urge to spare
The golden hoard, was instantly subdu'd,
When suff'ring virtue wanted a support.

Not

Not with more haste, the beamy morning rose,
Unbarr'd the gate of night ; and from the east
Darted a radiance to the western skies ;
Diffus'd o'er all th' expanse, the welcome day—
Than to the burnish'd store, MANILIUS fled,
Thence for EVANDER, took a bounteous sum ;
Which with an air of affability ;
With unaffected friendship, and respect,
Th' endearing off-spring of benevolence ;
He readily enhanc'd the former debt,
And risqu'd the payment of a larger loan,
To calm the tempest of life's troubled tide.

Pleas'd as the swain, when, from th' impending show'r
He, in some friendly mansion, hides his head ;
'Till by kind winds, the threat'ning storm's dispers'd,
And the black welkin a bright aspect wears.—
Such were the grateful motions in his breast,
At first conception—in their early dawn—
Of acts so lib'ral—and unmerited—
Yet thus repeated—with complacency—
This, more maturely, with attention weigh'd,
A warmer passion in his bosom glow'd ;
The most exalted sentiments of love ;

The noblest flame that friendship can inspire,
Or gratitude could kindle in the soul,
Waked : in his mind the kindest disposition,
When in the most obliging manner, free,
And unsolicited, he in return
Proposed to consign his whole effects,
Unto MANILIUS, his experienc'd friend,
And make him sole proprietor of all
Whate'er his house, his shop and books contain'd.
EVANDER thus a testimonial gave
Of confidence, affection, and regard,
Lest such a pattern of beneficence,
One of such singular generosity,
Should too much by these benefactions lose,
Yet noble, and uncommon as it was,
'Twas with a magnanimity of mind ;
With a disinterestedness advanc'd
Above that abject littleness of thought,
With which the human race too much are sway'd ;
With peculiar modesty—rejected—
'Till by EVANDER's importunities,
He yielded the conveyance to accept,
But purpos'd the security should sleep
As useless, in his custody, should not

Appear

Appear to prejudice th' industrious man,
Such his intention—such his fix'd resolve.

MANILIUS now invested with the pow'r
At pleasure, to distress th' unhappy man,
And with oppressive grasp, effect the ruin
Of one, who sought for succour from his hand,
And fled to him for shelter from the storm.
But with power in rigour to proceed,
Could not with his munificence consist,
No—that benevolent disposition
Which, late illustrious, in his bosom, shone,
And by its promptitude to good, restrain'd
The secret pleadings of avidity;
Will check, by its ascendancy within,
Each infant struggle of illib'ral thought:
This conquest stamps, upon our noblest part,
That ray of immortality, the soul,
The signature of the divinity.
Nay more, if the same spirit is allow'd
With virtues diff'ring in degree, to shine;
In magnitude and splendor to improve,
And nearer by assimilation rise,
As by a climax to perfection's source;

It must be on compassion's tender wing,
Which pity, gen'rous pity will expand
Th' afflicted to protect, beneath its shade.

Warm'd with a beam of animating hope,
That business might, by diligence increase,
And all his wants impow'r him to surmount:
With ardency his honest mind was bent,
If possible, the great loans to lessen.
But ev'ry effort unpropitious prov'd;
All that EVANDER, by his trade, could gain,
In decency, his progeny, and wife
Would scarce support, with nature's common calls.
Tho' with great prudence; and œconomy;
With all that housewifry her sex could boast,
His acquisitions were by her disburs'd;
Yet vain, and fruitless was th' attempt,
With his assiduity connected;
To make a small remittance, and discharge
Part of the debt due to their steady friend.

These good intentions, reach'd MANILIUS' ear,
Thence found a passage to his noble mind;
And there impress'd forgiveness of the whole,

Rather

Rather than seize what was his own by law.
 For thus he reason'd, on their adverse state.
 " How melting, how affecting is the tale,
 " Which now informs me of their willingness,
 " By easy payments to redeem, what they
 " Once justly claim'd, tho' now to me transferr'd?
 " Yet unavailing all their struggles are,
 " By pains, and parsimony to effect,
 " The wish'd redemption of their property.
 " For that great planet, which illumines the day,
 " More than six times has thro' th' ecliptic run,
 " Since the consignment was to me deliver'd:
 " Yet not one shilling have I e'er receiv'd,
 " The seal to break and cancel the conveyance."

And shall they toil in vain for a release
 From that solicitude, those anxious cares,
 Which with their pond'rous load depress the soul?
 No—I will free them from th' uneasy yoke.
 Sad is their case, and much to be bemoan'd;
 My bowels yearn, a flood of tendernefs
 Invades my soul, and pleads in their behalf;
 Pleads with such prevalence, I now resolve
 The writing to EVANDER, to return.—
 Then hasted the benevolent MANILIUS,

And

And in his hands, deposited the deed,
As an indemnity from fear of ill,
With this injunction that it be destroy'd,
Which would be full assurance of his safety.

This unexpected, this uncommon act
Of generosity, and munificence,
Caus'd an emotion in EVANDER'S heart
Past all description, scarce to be conceiv'd.
There joy, and gratitude his bosom swell'd,
And struggled for a passage from his lips,
Whence thankfulness, in falt'ring accents, flow'd;
Whilst the big drops bedew'd his pallid cheeks,
And to such merit the due praise suppress'd.



T O
V I R I L I U S.
O N
C H A S T I T Y.

ATTEND, VIRILIUS, while the humble muse,
 Fir'd with the love of virtue, and of thee;
 In artless numbers calls the wand'rer home.
 For you she now expands her friendly wing,
 And labours to persuade you to engrave
 These dictates on the tablet of your mind.

Whene'er SALACIA rises to your view,
 In real shape; while with unwary tread,
 You stray too near the portal of her dome.
 As from a monster, bred on Afric's soil,
 Precipitate your flight; and as you fly,
 Beware of glancing back upon your bane.

G

A fe-

A second interview pleads for a third,
 The third a fourth, which conclude in freedoms,
 That hurry dear VIRILIUS to his ruin.

Or if a wand'ring and unguarded thought,
 Convey the fraudulent image to your soul
 With just abhorrence shrink, and with resolves,
 While in your youthful breast, some marks are found,
 Some sparks of the divinity appear,
 Suppress the earliest notions of SALACIA:
 On present conduct waits your future fate,
 On errors past, reflect not but with grief:
 With detestation! horror! and remorse!
 One guilty act tho' of the lowest class,
 Merits a whole eternity of woe:
 Since it affronts the majesty of heav'n.

O banish from your breast with pious rage!
 The guileful, ever hated * MILWOOD's daughter!
 Then straight incline your steps to virtue's paths:
 So shall you rise in the esteem of all:
 But that unhappy wretch, the vile SALACIA!
 Whom I intreat you as a serpent flee.

T O

* See the Tragedy of Barnwell.



TO
C E L I C I U S.
 ON THE
 L U D I C R O U S U S E
 O F
SCRIPTURE PHRASES.

CELICIUS! listen to the lowly strains,
 Of one who zealous to preserve the laws
 By heav'n prescrib'd, to guide the devious steps
 Of laps'd man, in virtue's sacred road,
 From violation rude, from use profane,
 Whose friendly muse in monitory verse,
 Now to CELICIUS thus attempts to sing.

Let the bold Atheist sport with hallow'd lines,
 The purest precepts with his drolls profane,
 And lightly use the oracles of God.

Be it your care no scripture phrase to join,
To the gay products of a hum'rous mind;
Which to the truly great betrays a weakness;
An incapacity to form a jest,
Without annexing surreptitiously,
To your immoral words, the words of heav'n.
What! tho' you to yourself may seem polite;
The most accomplish'd of the human race;
Your wiser audience soon discerns the theft;
And from your nauseous nonsense straight extracts
Th' immortal dictates of the deity,
The very life and spirit of your mirth.
Thus of your borrow'd worth divested, think
How nearly you've transcrib'd the fabled *Crow*:
And blush to draw the parallel again.
But lest too weakly this affect my friend.
See! with what great solemnity the law,
On Sinai's top was to the Jews promulg'd!
What veneration to the mount was paid!
None were allow'd its utmost verge to touch;
Whether of brutal kind or reas'ning man!
Since so much rev'rence to the place was due,
Tremble so rudely to intrude again
On that from which it had its sanctity,

And

And is more venerable made, by HIM
Who perfected the work where MOSES fail'd.
Then be ashamed with your insipid thoughts;
Vilely to mix divinity itself:
And so the highest sacrilege commit;
To be thought witty when the greatest fool.
Let the reflection of so black a guilt,
Correct th' enormous movements of your tongue;
And set the organ to a proper key;
The good of mankind and your MAKER's praise.





To the S A M E.
O N
A M B I T I O N.

WHILE the ambitious swell'd with pomp and noise,
Or with the countless sums of treasure rapt,
Warmly contend for the delusive prize,
Which heightens rather than their thirst allays.
Far distant, dear CELSIUS, let us view,
With plying eyes, the fascinated race,
Eagerly jostle for a grain of dust,
Or breath of air that's in a moment gone.

Thus busy emmets, when th' illustrious sun,
With his strong beams, warms and illumines their orb,
Toil with their loads to climb the steep ascent.
As those to us, on their small globe, appear
Contemtuons, we to the Eternal seem.
Nay, less, as atoms to the human eye,

By

By magnifying optics unimprov'd ;
Whose longest life's as the least point of time,
View'd in the same perspective with futurity.

Tho' lowly plac'd, serenely let us pass
This probatory point, in firm allegiance,
To the great Lord of universal nature,
Pleas'd with the state, omnipotence assigns,
To his dependent vassals ; and adore,
The mighty THOUGHT, that rais'd us into being !
Nor envy those the airy acquisitions,
Of wealth ideal, transitory greatness,
The pride of empires, and the boast of kings.

Yet such a magnanimity of spirit,
Such thirst of glory, merits our applause,
As fir'd the breasts of those immortal * Britons ;
Who bravely fought to save a sinking land ;
Not with their own but *Nation's* good inspir'd.

* Alluding to the heroes in the late war.



T O
V I N O S I U S.
O N
D R I N K I N G.

WHEN the great PARENT of creation form'd
 The sov'reign of this sublunary orb,
 To bound his appetites, his passions rule,
 And fit him for the sway of such an empire:
 Straight a reflexive principle impress'd;
 Which bids, forbids, and dictates what is right.
 Yet left him will and power to depose,
 Altho' not totally eradicate,
 The great directress of the human mind.
 This is effected, when the passions sway,
 When the insatiate appetites prevail;
 When with repeated draughts of luscious wine,
 The mem'ry's gone, the spirits are oppress'd
 Which should direct and actuate the whole.

VINO-

VINOSIUS, think how far beneath your rank,
How far you sink below the nobler brutes,
Which answer still the end of their creation.
While you're unmann'd, incapable of empire ;
And must be govern'd by abstemious men.
Reason dethron'd ; and all reflexion lost !
Touch'd with the flame which fires your friendly *Bard*,
With the same ardor, that he dictates, act.
Detest the philtrous juices of the grape,
And wage eternal combat with excess.
When thirst or nature are to be suffic'd,
Never indulge your palate in its choice ;
Be ever jealous, lest you're caught again ;
Ever ambitious to maintain your rule ;
The dignity assign'd you, as the regent,
By the prime Author of this mundane frame. 1



T O
P E T R O N I U S
T H E
V I C T O R.

Occasion'd by the Taking of PORTO-BELLO
by ADMIRAL VERNON.

SEE, see PETRONIUS! how the Britons smile!
Extatic sweetness smooths the wrinkled brow!
Dwells on the cheek, and sparkles in the eye,
Of ev'ry zealous patriot, and plebeian!
Whose glory with the *Nation's* lives, or dies.
Elate with conquest o'er th' aspiring *Dons*,
Their nerves are brac'd, their lethargy dispel'd;
And martial heat invigorates each breast.

Thus the harmonious tenants of the air,
That 'scape the limy twigs, or spreading net;
Exulting clap their wings, and tour the sky.

Rouz'd

Rouz'd from his den, or with keen hunger stung;
 Not with more rage the rampant lion meets,
 And triumphs o'er th' ignobler brutal herd.
 Than Britain's sons, fir'd with their country's good;
 Justly incens'd, meet the imperious foe;
 And triumph o'er th' invasive sordid host,
 When led by those illustrious sons of mars!
 Immortal VERNON! and the great ARGYLE!

As fiery sol, breaks with resistless force
 Thro' a dark cloud, and, with majestic pride,
 His liberty, and empire, still maintains.
 BRITANNIA rises from a long eclipse;
 And seems to promise a refulgent day.
 O may she ever thus victorious prove!
 And all those treach'rous *Machiavels* subvert,
 That seek to waste her power, and her wealth;
 Those valu'd blessings of indulgent heav'n.



T O
F I D E L I A.
ON THE
POWER OF SPEECH.

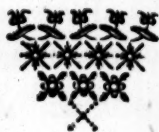
THINK not, FIDELIA, that my words reflect
 Dishonour on the office, but the *Man*;
 Whose indolence of speech but lulls his flock;
 Or lets them wander from the paths of truth.
 In vain the virtuous lend a list'ning ear!
 While he so coldly, negligently reads
 The sacred liturgy, the words of life,
 That not one half th' enfeebled voice can hear.
 Shall we not then, or is it criminal
 To wish for one, whose lips more fervently
 Impart the dictates of th' eternal MIND?

Raife

Raise the dead sinner with emphatic sound,
And lift the living spirits with his own ;
In prayers, and lauds, above the blushing sky ?
Who awfully the *Decalogue* delivers !
And when the hallow'd rostrum he ascends ;
At once informs the ear, and moves the soul,
If heav'n's transcendent glories he displays ;
And point at pleasure mortals cannot taste,
Assure us of a rich exhaustless mine,
As lasting as eternity itself.
The MISER straight quits his pursuit of clay ;
Wisely declines to hoard up burnish'd dust,
And seeks more permanent, substantial wealth,
Which fully satisfies the utmost wish,
Of the most avaritious appetite,
Which ne'er decays, nor e'er can be diminish'd.
The SENSU'LIST too begins to loath his joys,
And thirst for those which heighten with enjoyment !
In one extatic, endless torrent flow,
For while he shadows out empyreal sweets,
With arguments too strong to be withstood,
By all the struggling appetites of sense,
When with th' emphatic pow'r of speech convey'd,

Ascendant

Ascendant passions sink, and nobly rise,
In quest of more transporting scenes of bliss,
Charm'd with ideas of his greatest good.
Which should he with a languid voice depaint;
All other efforts would abortive prove;
Such charms has found! such is the POW'R OF SPEECH!





T O
H O N O R I U S.

O N T H E
Degrees of K N O W L E D G E and Power of
E X A M P L E.

W H E N C E spring the various sentiments of men,
But from the strength of their perceptive pow'rs;
Knowledge improv'd, and reason's clearer views
Of the effects of things, and their dependencies,
Thro' diff'rent optics by reflexion form'd;
The best of which are still defective found.
The head of the prime class of reasoners;
The most exalted sublimated thoughts,
Fall infinitely short in their perceptions,
Of the great chain of nature, and its cause;
While intercepted with corporeal clouds;
'Till rarified and purged from their dross;
For infinite perceptions are adapted.

Then

Then say, how great's the pleasure, or the pain,
Which with their consciousness must correspond ;
When the ideal powers are enlarg'd ?
This, this compleats, and consummates the whole.
Nor think, HONORIUS, that the lowest class
Share less in these, than the sublimest rank,
Rais'd to the utmost height of perceptivity.
Since they are suited to their intellects,
Which, ah ! too oft are influenc'd to act,
By the example of superior pow'rs.
As the great springs of action in machin'ry,
Move, by their elasticity, the whole.

Then, dear HONORIUS ! think how circumspectly !
How cautiously you ever ought to tread !
Since by the ebullitions of the great,
The passions of inferior minds are mov'd.

EUMENES



E U M E N E S

T O

T E L U S I U S.

On the Vanity of Worldly Pleasures.

ENOUGH! TELUSIUS of these transient toys,
 Which have too long enslav'd us with their charms;
 With wild chimeras fraught th' instructive mind!
 Seiz'd our affections, and devour'd our time;
 Which should have been employ'd on nobler objects:
 Providing for the soul eternal bliss,
 By forming there the image of our God.
 When they with expectation lift the SOUL,
 High as ideal pinnacles can raise it,
 And promise us a deluge of delight,
 A blissful paradise, a heav'n on earth!
 No sooner with sublimity of thought,
 We taste the promis'd comfortable Cup;
 But the delightful joyous scene is o'er

I

Whose

58 EUMENES to TELUSIUS.

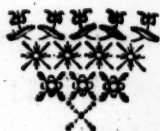
Whose compositions if prohibited,
 With floods of horror, anguish, and remorse,
 Incessantly afflict and rack the guilty.
 Allowable the repetition cloy,
 Palls, even in the height of the enjoyment :
 Thus bilks, and robs us of our happiness ;
 And for fresh acquests leaves the lab'ring fancy.
 Forlorn ! discons'late ! in this wretched state,
 The pitying Pow'r, the boundless SOURCE of light,
 Darted into the clouded breast, a small
 Beam, a particle of his effulgence ;
 Which now, as the touch'd *Needle* to its pole,
 Perpetually inclines ; the heavenly ray,
 Does ever tend to its Original ;
 Yet will not go without the SOUL its errand :
 Which with impatient wishes wing'd, begins
 To soar, and flutter, round its porous cage ;
 Longs, for enlargement, to ascend above,
 The-beauteous azure of the vast expanse ;
 There to be united to the DEITY :
 To correspond with all-creating THOUGHT,
 And in the splendors of his Glory share.
 Flush'd with such contemplations on my home !
 I loath all sensual delights, contemn

The

The pleasures of this sublunary world.
 Nay wish this tott'ring tenement would fall,
 These walls of weak mortality decay,
 Which so impede my passage to the Blest.
 How shall I joy to see the happy hour !
 When the pale *Tyrant* with a cold embrace,
 Stagnates the purple torrent in my veins,
 And lays this brittle mansion with the dust :
 That my imprison'd spirit may take wing,
 May with strong flight to her empyreum tow'r.
 How could I smile at the deliverer !
 And meet with extacy the skeleton !
 Humanity would shrink at the reflection,
 And straight recoil upon his bold advances :
 Did not a spark of the divinity,
 Not only rarefy, and purge the foul,
 From all its stains contracted in the flesh :
 But spread its influence o'er the human frame,
 And consecrate the whole corporeal mass ;
 That now, since its affinity to Heav'n,
 It spurns th' illusive glories here below ;
 And only waits till with a welcome stroke,
 'Tis usher'd to the realms of lasting rest.
 Till then I'll ward against their treacheries ;

60 EUMENES to TELUSIUS.

A state of innocence shall be my aim ;
As far as human frailty will allow.
And what my vigilance cannot prevent,
I'll mourn ; and so engage the world's great RANSOM
To cancel the indictment when arraign'd.
Thus I'll defeat, and triumph in my conquest,
O'er the fallacious enemies of *Man*.





To the S A M E.

ON THE

DEATH OF A MISER.

SAY, what avail those heaps of burnish'd dust?
Since he's no more! the groveling Mortal's gone!

And left the idol of his soul behind.

The stores collected by his anxious toils;

From Orphans, and defenceless Widows torn.

Who on himself committed constant thefts,

T' enlarge the yellow heaps of sun-burnt clay,

Depriv'd by a too parsimonious use,

Of the rich blessings of indulgent Heav'n.

Forgetful, or regardless of the curse;

Which like a canker wastes the MISER's wealth,

That for substantial fums, his heirs enjoy

But golden dreams; a visionary hoard!

The mouldy treasure bilks their budding bliss.

As

62 EUMENES to TELUSIUS.

As evanescent insects disappear ;
So fade the glitt'ring piles of sordid earth ;
Which the late Miscreant fraudulently gain'd.

Thus when we think with eager grasp to hold,
The vivid min'ral, it eludes our hope :
So swiftly thro' our closing fingers slips,
That not the smallest particle is caught.

So subterraneous *Moles* oft hillocks raise,
That's straight laid level with the flow'ry lawn ;
By the sagacious cultivating Swain.

FULVI.



FULVIUS TO AMICUS,

THE

PENITENT.

HOW shall my erring hand attempt t' expunge,
Or how extenuate th' enormous act !

To plead the pow'r of passion is in vain.

To say that *Reason* and *Philosophy*,

That all the guards of virtue were surpriz'd,

Or overcome by the impetuous foe,

Would be impertinent and unavailing.

To urge the imbecility of nature ;

That disembodied and Angelic forms,

Those glorious sons of heav'n alone are pure,

Will not suffice t' obliterate the guilt :

Nor will a stream of suppliant tears avail,

Tho with a deep, unfeign'd contrition shed,

Which Heav'n, all-good, indulgent Heav'n accepts,

Who sees the secret workings of my soul,

And

And only knows how I detest the fault;
 Which from your mem'ry nothing can erase:
 For if you can forgive, you will suspect me,
 And ever will reproach me with my conduct.
 How execrable's the least taint of vice,
 Which, tho'remitted, is indefinable!
 Oh dire reflexion! heart-depressing thought!
 Must I not be remember'd but with horror?
 Nor without detestation be beheld?
 O innocence! O whither art thou fled,
 Thou source of Peace, and solace of the Soul?
 Couldst thou return, O lovely beauteous form!
 With how much circumspection would I guard
 The ebullitions of my treach'rous heart,
 Which shall henceforward be my constant care.



E R R A T A.

- Page 4. Line 1. for *dye* read *dyes*.
 l. 10. for *include* read *includes*.
 l. 15. for *exalts* read *exalts*.
 p. 5. l. 1. for *move* read *moves*.
 p. 6. l. 20. for *arives* read *arrives*.
 p. 10. l. 4. for *commiserating* read *commiserating*.
 p. 11. l. 4. for *sum* read *sums*.
 p. 19. l. 4. for *would* read *could*.
 p. 29. l. 6. for *vanquish'd* read *vanish'd*.
 v. 22. for *supply* read *for a supply*.